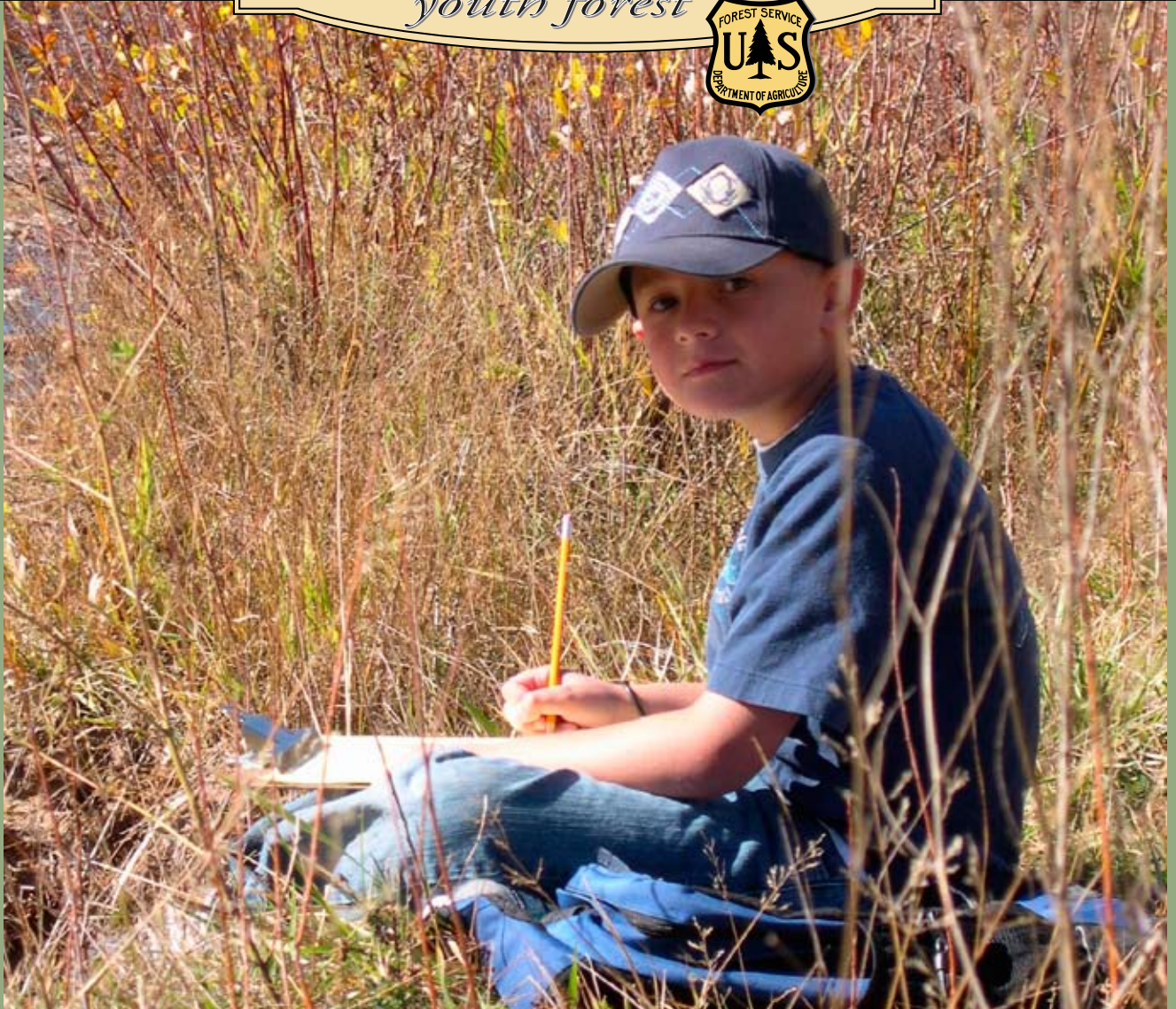


# *Diamond Fork*

*youth forest*







# DIAMOND FORK YOUTH

The Diamond Fork Youth Forest is an area that has been set aside for youth to investigate, study, and interact with natural resource professionals and take part in managing our natural resources. The Diamond Fork Youth Forest provides youth with hands-on experience working with professionals and exposes them to the challenges of managing the land. Through awareness, education, critical thinking, and action, youth are involved in solving today's natural resource management issues and given the opportunity to take on the challenges of the future.

The Diamond Fork Youth Forest is located in the Spanish Fork Ranger District on the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, approximately 35 miles southeast of Provo, Utah.



The Diamond Fork watershed is an outdoor laboratory for local school groups. Students explore the natural world by discovering, inventorying, and monitoring the area. The Youth Forest provides an outdoor classroom setting, and creates an open forum for collaboration and sharing. This allows students to integrate an understanding of natural resources with cultural and social values. It also provides an opportunity for corporations, interest groups, and local communities to participate in and support conservation education, as well as resource management.



"My hope is that you will join us in this experience and gain an understanding of the importance and value of the natural resources we manage as stewards."

- Brian Ferebee, Forest Supervisor,  
Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest



# VISION

A photograph of three children in a forest setting. Two girls in the foreground are looking intently at a small plant held up by a boy on the right. The girl on the left wears a maroon hoodie, and the girl next to her wears a pink jacket. The boy on the right wears a light blue jacket with a rainbow-striped cuff. They are all holding the plant, which has a green stem and small leaves, together. The background shows a dense forest of bare trees and distant mountains under a clear sky.

We strive to inspire passion for our natural resources by giving the youth of our nation a vision to make a difference through their own experiences.

“Kids must understand why forests are so valuable so they will grow into citizens who support conservation. We will work with partners to ensure that American children have the opportunity to experience the great outdoors, whether it is a remote mountain wilderness or a spot of nature in the heart of a city.”

- Abigail R. Kimbell, Forest Service Chief



Together  
partners of our  
community  
can connect  
children to  
nature, giving  
them a sense  
of community  
and a sense  
of place.

# Connection



"My students are able to visit the Diamond Fork Youth Forest several times a year. Lessons taught in the outdoor environment have a much greater impact than if they had been taught in the classroom! It's hard to observe a bald eagle, take stream samples, learn about snow, draw plants in their nature journal, or build a nature trail if you are in your classroom. It is important to get them outdoors, not only for their learning, but for their health as well. The Youth Forest has had a powerful impact on my students."

- Chris Roberts, teacher, Rees Elementary School



# Inspire



“My class went up to Diamond Fork to the Youth Forest three times last year. I loved bird watching, the fresh air, and writing about the things I heard and smelled and saw. We put on waders and got into the river; we found a lot of bugs. Diamond Fork has been an amazing experience for me!”

– 5th Grade student, Rees Elementary School

“The Diamond Fork Youth Forest changed my life. The way Diamond Fork changed my life is that I didn’t get outside when I’m at my house, I learned lots at Diamond Fork and people should go there to get outdoors.”

– 3rd Grade student, Sage Creek Elementary School



Together we can inspire youth to build self-confidence, expand life experiences, and become the leaders of tomorrow.





# Challenge

We challenge youth to achieve their potential academically and physically, and to become critical thinkers and problem solvers. The Youth Forest creates a setting to connect youth with these challenges.

"Our class went to the Diamond Fork Youth Forest and worked on the trails with the Forest Service. It was hard and exciting, but very fun!"

- 3rd Grade Student, Rees Elementary School





# Restore



Partners can help students build a legacy for future generations through action-based work projects restoring natural landscapes.

"The Company's goal is to help instill a great awareness of the environment and a sense of respect for the community in the students and youth groups that regularly visit the Forest."

- Jim Durand - Sapa Extrusions



# Imagine

Imagine that **you** are the in  
Imagine that **you** are the fo



"We are teaching children, twenty years from now they will be able to come back and say I helped my dad plant this tree. Wherever they go, this will stay in their memories. They helped reforest the Earth."



inspiration to change the life of a child.  
force to reconnect children with nature.



## How can you become a partner with the Diamond Fork Youth Forest?

Join us by sponsoring Diamond Fork Youth Forest activities:

**Discovery Trail** – Build 2 miles of the Discovery Trail on National Public Lands Day by digging tread, laying ground cloth, and spreading gravel with students.

**Discovery Stations** – Assist students by sponsoring the construction of a bird watching tower and homesteading cabin.

**Discovery Trail Signs** – Install signs designed by children to teach visitors about nature.

**Winter Activities** – Sponsor winter activities by supplying snowshoes, over boots, and other equipment for winter exploration.

**Migrating Songbirds** – Join students in the field to monitor and collect data about migratory songbirds that nest in Diamond Fork Youth Forest.

**Sponsor a Naturalist** – Sponsor a naturalist to lead children and families on nature walks and youth field trips.

**Join us for Earth Day** – Join the celebration with students and communities to restore the landscape.

For more information on how to get involved please contact our coordinator Sarah Flinders at [sflinders@fs.fed.us](mailto:sflinders@fs.fed.us).

- Donna Durand, Neways



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